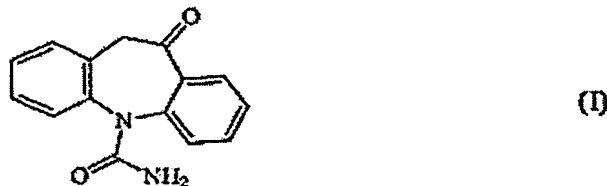


CLAIMS

1. Process for preparing oxcarbazepine of formula

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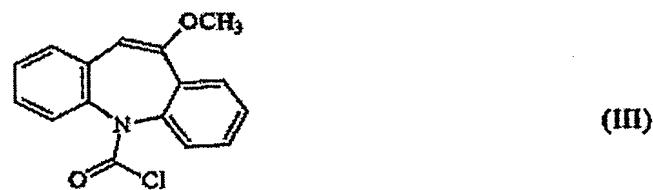
which includes:

10 a) the chlorocarbonylation reaction of the compound of formula



with triphosgene in the presence of a base, to give the compound of formula

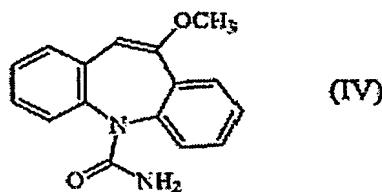
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2. Process according to Claim 1, which subsequently includes:

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b) ammonolysis of the compound of formula III to give the compound of formula



and

5 c) acid hydrolysis of the compound of formula IV to give oxcarbazepine I.

10 3. Process according to Claim 1 or 2, in which the said chlorocarbonylation reaction
a) is performed with triphosgene in a molar ratio, relative to the compound of
formula II, of between 0.46:1 and 0.54:1 and more preferably at about 0.5:1.

15 4. Process according to Claims 1 to 3, in which the said chlorocarbonylation reaction
a) is performed using triethylamine as base, in a molar ratio relative to the
compound of formula II of between 1.4: 1 and 1.6:1 and preferably at about 1.5:1.

20 5. Process according to Claims 1 to 4, in which the said chlorocarbonylation reaction
a) is performed in toluene and at a temperature of between 90 and 110°C.

6. Process according to Claims 2 to 5, in which the ammonolysis b) is performed
with aqueous ammonia in methanol.

25 7. Process according to Claims 2 to 6, in which the deprotection c) is performed with
hydrochloric acid in aqueous medium at a pH of about 1 and at a temperature of
between 90 and 95°C.